

R E M A R K S

Claim 4 is amended to make it clearer and in better Jepson-type form.

Claims 4-9 where rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Young et al, US Patent 6,990,116. Applicant respectfully traverses.

The Examiner points to col. 7. lines 9-25 of the reference, but the cited passage merely teaches (in its most relevant portion) that

[A]ll stations receiving either the RTS or CTS frames will set their network allocation vector (NAV) accordingly for the given duration and will user this information together with the physical carrier sense when sensing the medium to determine whether the medium is busy or idle.

This does not teach or suggest the claim 4 limitation of

said first station setting a duration value for its RTS message to a value other than a time period for a predetermined subsequent message transmission.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 4 and, the claims that depend thereon are not anticipated by the reference.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, applicant respectfully submits that all of the Examiner's rejections have been overcome. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully,
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By


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